

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Sally Taylor

IAMSLIC President 2013-2014
University of British Columbia
Woodward Library
Vancouver, Canada

Good morning everyone. I expected to be staring at a sea of unfamiliar faces but after the game at last night's reception, I feel like I know more about some of you than I should! Thank you to the organizers for creating such a warm and inclusive welcome for us.

As President of IAMSLIC, I would like to welcome you to the conference. It is a special one because we will celebrate our 40th anniversary, and the Pacific Islands Regional Group will hold its 2nd meeting. I think most of us can remember our first IAMSLIC conference or when we joined the organization. In my case, it was in 2000 when IAMSLIC met in Victoria, British Columbia on the west coast of Canada, only an hour and a half by ferry from my home. I was a new librarian, and my predecessor said I should go! I may not recall the presentations but I still remember the people I met, many of whom became mentors and friends.

Because of my introduction into IAMSLIC, I see the value in meeting in different regions around the world and supporting our members to attend. I would like to echo Mary-Clare and acknowledge the organizations that sponsored our members: Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE), Papua New Guinea National Fisheries Authority and ASFA, and to recognize our other sponsors who assisted with offsetting meeting costs: SPC, North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), Inter-Research, ProQuest and Annual Reviews. Their support has been invaluable.

Finally I would like to thank Mary-Clare and Guillermina and their teams in planning such a fabulous event for us. Whether it's your first meeting or your 34th, I'm positive it will be a fruitful experience and one you will remember.